Andover Theological Seminary.

July 16. 1850.

Dear brethren;

After a somewhat prolonged delay we again send you our fraternal greeting. Your very acceptable letter was duly recieved. We were gratified to learn that there were, at your Seminary, signs of an increasing interest in the great cause of Missions. This so corresponded with the state of things here, and in some other institutions from which we had heard, that we were led to entertain very encouraging hopes for the future. We could not refrain from anticipating the time, when the true Missionary Spirit should again pervade all our Theological Seminaries. When the Macedonian cry should no longer reach our shores in vain and when the worn out missionary should no longer be left to faint in his place for the lack of help. We belive that the missionary Spirit is the true Christian Spirit, and when we see it brightly burning in the hearts of the ministry, our hops rise high for the cause of Christ every where. Brethren let us pray God to give us this Spirit. And let us stand ready to go whersoever He may call us. though it be even into the dark places of the earth, and into the habitations of cruelty. And let us examine thoroughly and honestly the question, whither he does

call us. Unless we are willing to give up all for Christ we are not worthy of him. And if we are willing to sacrifice the ties of kindred and country, and go forth to spend our lives in laboring for the ignorant and degraded heathen, how excellently shall we be prepared to labor in any place where God may cast our lot.

Since our last letter, we think there has been no diminution of interest in this subject, among us, but rather an increase. The public meetings of our Society have been fully attended, and they have been of an unusually interesting character. Also the monday evening missionary prayer meeting has been the largest and most interesting of all our weekly meetings. This feeling, we hope will not be evanescent. We look rather to see it become stronger. We hope that not only those of our number who purpose to find their field of labor upon foreign shores, but also all those whose duty it is to proclaim the gospel in our own more favored land, will become thoroughly imbued with the missionary spirit. We hope that all will be led to make themselves thoroughly acquainted with the past history, and the present condition and prospects of the missionary enterprise. If they do this, we know that they will carry the right spirit with them wherever they go. It will not remain shut up in their own bosoms. but they will infuse it into the con-

gregations to which they minister - and thus become efficient helpers in the great and glorious cause.

We cannot speak, dear brethren, as you can, of a revival of religion in our very midst. Though there has been some special religious interest in this place, and a number of hopeful conversions are mentioned, yet we have experienced nothing that can properly be termed a revival. But God has done great things for our commonwealth. He has come down, in almost every section of the State, like rain upon the mown grass. We were mourning over the hidings of his face, when lo! even in the midst of our sorrow, He has made us to rejoice. Gently, yet powerfully, has the Spirit wrought. Its gracious influence has been felt, not exclusively in particular regions, but all over the state. Revivals have sprung up simultaneously in places unconnected and remote from each other. The workings of the omnipresent Spirit - unaided by sympathetic human feelings. So silent has been the work, that its extent and power was but faintly realized, until the late meeting of the general Association. At that time pastors from all parts of the State gave in their cheering reports, and a thrill of joy was sent throughout all our churches. We have not exact statistics - but it is believed that more than a hundred churches of our own denomination are now rejoicing in the fruits of the Spirit.

and our Methodist and Baptist brethren have probably been equally favored, in proportion to their number. In some towns the converts have been numbered by hundreds. This work of the Spirit has not been confined to the State of Massachusetts. We hear similar reports from each of the New England States. though in the others it has been less powerful and extensive. We know dear brethren that you will sympathize with us in our joy. and join us in ascribing honour and praise to our Lord and Savour.

These substantial tokens of divine favor, taken in connection with like favorable intelligence from other portions of our great nation, encourage us in the hope that God has good things in store for this country. We hope that he will yet make this land Immanuels land. That he will here open a fountain, whence shall flow forth waters for the healing of the nations. And though he has recently brought upon us a sore affliction, in calling away our honoured and beloved chief magistrate, yet we hope that he is chastising us in love. Oh! that we might be led to bow beneath the stroke, and put far away from us our great national sins. Let us brethren search our own hearts, and see if God has not, in this providence, a rebuke for us. And with contrite hearts, let us plead with him that he will not now forsake us in his anger. but turn again and bless us.

Yours in the bonds of Christian love. L. W. Chaney. in behalf of the Soc. of Inq. Andover